



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

... His characters ... fulfill their destiny in a manner that often suggests the fatalism of the Greek drama."—(p. 374).

Dr. Haney hardly does well to dismiss these writers as pessimists, and to hail Browning as an optimist. Both these expressions seem facile and unconsidered. To possess and reproduce artistic melancholy need not involve one in philosophic pessimism, and it were much truer to recognize Browning as a meliorist.

G. H. C.

COLONIAL PROSE AND POETRY. Edited by William P. Trent and Benjamin W. Wells. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co. Pp. 1026.

Students of history, as well as lovers of literature, will heartily welcome this new impression of a standard three-volume anthology of Colonial prose and poetry which has long been before the public, but which its editors now present to us in a most convenient, compact and inexpensive one-volume edition printed on thin paper.

The editors have deserved well of the public in sifting a vast mass of curious, rare and often forgotten material, and in making the best of it so readily accessible. Many readers will be surprised to find our Colonial writings so rich in adventure, so instructive and so full of interesting details disclosing our early social and economic life; and so revelatory of the high, even if narrow, thinking of our Colonial forefathers.

Some fifty authors are represented in the collection. Each of the three periodical divisions of the book is prefaced by an admirable general introduction, and to each author are devoted a special commentary and a brief biography.

S. L. WARE.

THE INFLUENCE OF CHRISTIANITY ON THE VOCABULARY OF OLD ENGLISH POETRY. By Albert Keiser. Urbana: University of Illinois Studies in Language and Literature, Volume V, Numbers 1 and 2. 1919. Pp. 150.

"In undertaking to present the influence of Christianity on the vocabulary of Old English poetry, we have attempted for Old English what Raumer and Kahle have done for Old High German and Old Norse." Such is the purpose of this monograph as expressed by the author. To accomplish this purpose,

he has meticulously threshed Old English poems, garnering the words related to the theory or practice of Christianity, and then he has classified these findings under subject-headings, such as: patriarchs, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and saints; ecclesiastical offices; church buildings; church festivals; the terminology of Christian worship and dogmatics; names for the deity, angels, and devils; etc.

Because this garnering and classifying have been done thoroughly, the monograph is valuable. Its main fault is a result of this virtue, for, in the desire to show the relation existing between the Old English word and its predecessor in the Vulgate, in the Greek, or even, as in the case of the word for 'clergy', in the Hebrew, the author in some few places has gone so far afield that the information becomes irrelevant. On this account his discoveries are smothered sometimes by comparatively unimportant matter. His comparison of the Old English words with their Old High German and Old Norse relatives is more helpful, although in this regard it seems strange that he did not select Old Saxon instead of Old High German, inasmuch as this language is more closely akin to Old English; and also Gothic instead of Old Norse, as Gothic contains the first Germanic Christian vocabulary. The ON and the OHG forms, however, make it an easy matter to compare the findings with those of Raumer and Kahle.

Some portions are especially useful, such as the paragraphs on the names of the Deity, especially those about *Wyrd*. The word-list on page 132 ff., composed of exclusively religious terms, and the paragraph on page 137, showing the distribution of these words among Old English poems, summarize much of the research work done by the author. The index serves as a dictionary of the Christian words in Old English poetry.

Thorough, but unimaginative, the monograph is a scholarly appendix to Grein's *Sprachschatz*. LAWRENCE FAUCETT.

SHAM. By Frank G. Tompkins. Cincinnati: Stewart & Kidd Company. 1920. Pp. 31.

This social satire in one act has several clever lines and develops an amusing situation. Unfortunately, the author's